DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE



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JL 7 1997

(DFAS-HQ/FMM)

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE
- CLEVELAND CENTER

DIRECTOR, DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE

- DENVER CENTER
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE

- INDIANAPOLIS CENTER

DIRECTOR, DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE

- KANSAS CITY CENTER

PROGRAM MANAGER, DEFENSE JOINT MILITARY PAY SYSTEM

SUBJECT: Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation, Volume 7, Part A and B (DoDFMR Vol 7A and 7B), Standard Procedures and Dollar Thresholds for Routine Pay Adjustments (DFAS Item F-65) and Other Clarifying Corrections to Table 50-6.

This is Interim Change Number 20-97 to DoDFMR Vol 7A and Interim Change Number R-15-97 to DoDFMR Vol 7B. We have evaluated your comments on the draft changes to DoDFMR Vol 7A and 7B. These changes incorporate revised standard procedures and dollar thresholds for routine pay adjustments and debts collected in accordance with 37 U.S.C. 1007(d) and 5 U.S.C., 5514 (a) (1) and 31 U.S.C. 3716. The attached final versions of the changes include your comments, where appropriate. This is effective immediately.

We have determined this regulatory change is to be implemented under the auspices of DFAS Regulation 7920.3-R. The purpose of the changes is to establish standard debt procedures and dollar thresholds for processing under the Defense Joint Military Pay System (DJMS), the Marine Corps Total Force System (MCTFS), and the Defense Retiree and Annuitant System (DRAS). The DJMS PMO, DFAS-CL, and DFAS-KC will ensure the necessary systems changes are scheduled for implementation in DJMS (active component and reserve component), DRAS, and MCTFS. Centers are advised to make DFAS Headquarters (FM) an information

addressee on implementing field procedures. For the Denver Center, use the attached to initiate the formal printed changes to DoDFMR Vol 7A and 7B.

Our point of contact, Ms Ann Cook may be contacted at DSN 332-5274 or Commercial (703) 602-5275. Our FAX number is DSN 332-5271 or Commercial (703) 602-5271.

Roger W. Scearce
-Brigadier General USA

Deputy Director for Finance

Attachments: As stated

cc: DASD (MMP) COMP

ODGC(F)

Service Liaisons

USCG/NOAA/PHS Liaisons

DFAS-DE/DG

DoDFMR Vol 7B INTERIM CHANGE R-15-97 DFAS Item F-65

1. Change paragraph 60205a to read:

"60205a. Categories of Debts.

(1) Routine Adjustments. A routine adjustment corrects an overpayment resulting from clerical or administrative errors, delays in processing pay documents, or an automated pay system error which is discovered and collected within no more than two monthly pay periods after the date of overpayment. The member shall be provided with notice of adjustment when it is made, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

(2) Categories:

- a. All debts of \$100 or less will automatically be collected at 2/3rds of disposable pay on the first available payday after they are identified. These debts will not require a notice to the retiree before collection action is taken. A retiree advisory statement (RAS) remark will advise the retiree that the debt has been collected from their pay.
- b. Routine adjustment greater than \$100 will be processed for collection in the month they are identified and a notice sent to the retiree (RAS remark) regarding an impending collection. If the retiree does not request a change in the repayment schedule, the system will automatically collect the debt utilizing the 2/3rds disposable pay rule.
- c. Due process debts greater than \$100 require formal notification to the member in the form of a due process letter from DFAS-CL. DFAS-CL will initiate debt collection based upon an appropriate liquidation schedule.

2. Add new paragraph 60205b to read:

- b. "No Pay Due" Notice. As a precaution to prevent avoidable hardship to the retiree, a "no pay due" RAS will be generated to the retiree."
- 3. Renumber subsequent paragraphs 60205b, c, and d to read c, d, and e.

4. Revise renumbered paragraph 60205c to read:

"60205c. Due Process Debts. Before initiating any collection action for debts under paragraph 60205a(2)c, the member shall..."
5. Change paragraph 60206c to read:

"60206c. Due Process. Debts collected under 5 U.S.C. 5514 (reference (cl)) are those owed to departments or agencies other than the Department of Defense or other Uniformed Services. creditor agency is responsible for providing due process to member debtors and for certifying to the Secretary of Defense that due process rights have been provided when requesting collection action. The requirement for due process does not apply to routine intra-agency adjustments of pay that are attributable to clerical or administrative errors or delays in processing pay documents that have occurred within the four pay periods preceding the adjustment and to any adjustment that amounts to \$50 or less, if at the time of such adjustment, or as soon thereafter as practical, the individual is provided written notice of the nature and the amount of the adjustment and a point of contact for contesting such adjustments. Once the Secretary of the Service concerned or the Secretary's designee accepts the debt for collection, members must be provided written notice' informing them of the nature and amount of the debt due the United States and the intent to commence collection through deductions from pay. The notice should provide a point of contact at the creditor agency for any questions or disputes the member may have."

6. Revise paragraph 60207a to read:

"60207a. The amount to be collected each month to recoup an indebtedness from a member's retired pay should be an amount each month reasonable to the size of the debt, and the member's ability to pay the debt as supported by financial information provided by the member."

7. Add the following to the bibliography:

"Paragraph

Citation

60206c

5 U.S.C. as amended Pub. L. 104-134, Sec 301, 26 Apr 1996"